# BOLTO
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# -TWO BLUE VORTEX-
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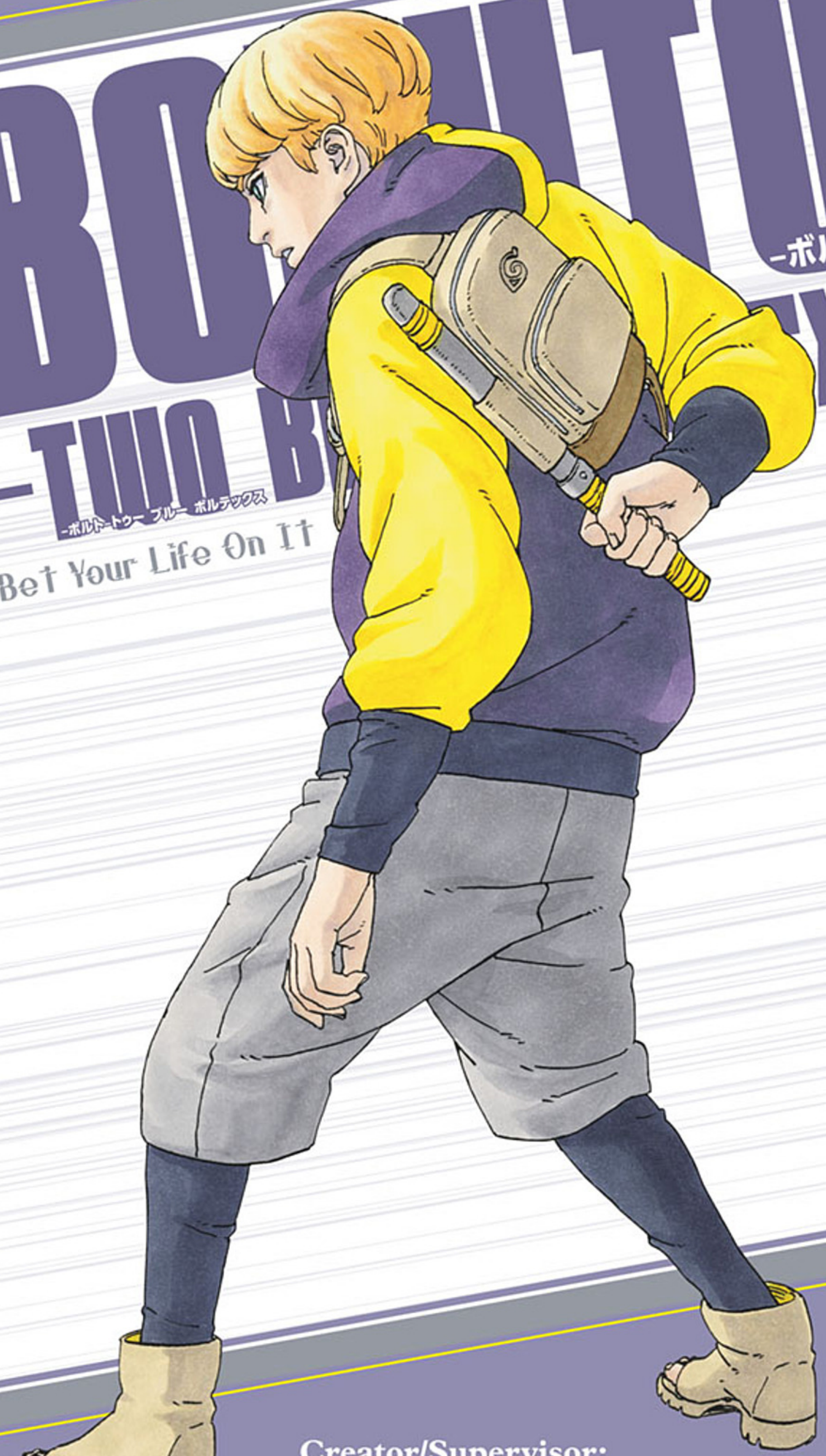
## 27: Bet Your Life On It

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# BORUTO

## -TWO BLUE VORTEX-

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SHF

...?!

...WITHOUT EITHER OF YOU EVEN REALIZING YOU WERE DEAD.

YOU GET IT NOW, RIGHT?

I COULD SNUFF YOU BOTH OUT ON A WHIM, IN AN INSTANT...

フ... SHF

...MANAGED TO ELUDE OMNI-POTENCE'S INFLUENCE...

IT'S UNNATURAL, NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...

...HOW THE TWO OF YOU, WHO ARE NOT OHTSUTSUKI...

...

SO WHY DIDN'T YOU?

...THEN THERE OUGHT TO BE MORE PEOPLE LIKE YOU OUT THERE.

SO IF THAT'S ALL IT TAKES TO EVADE MY ***ABILITY***...

IS IT BECAUSE BORUTO, AN OHTSUTSUKI, HAS STOLEN YOUR HEARTS?

...

WHICH LEAVES JUST ONE POSSI-BILITY.

BUT THERE AREN'T.

IT'S JUST THE TWO OF YOU.

NO... THAT ALONE CAN'T EXPLAIN IT.

...WHO CARRY A TORCH FOR KAWAKI AND BORUTO.

THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHERS, BOTH IN AND OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE...

...YOU BOTH.

I MUST'VE EXCLUDED...

...AND OMNI-POTENCE MADE IT HAPPEN.

UNCON-SCIOUSLY, OF COURSE.

I MUST'VE WISHED IT TO BE SO...

SARADA, REMEMBER...

...WHAT YOU SAID THAT DAY?

...

BUT WHY?

HOW ABOUT...

...WE JUST BE...

...ORDINARY FRIENDS?

...

EVEN BEFORE ...

...I MET YOU IN PERSON.

BECAUSE ...

...THAT WAS SOMETHING I'D BEEN WANTING FOREVER.

IT MADE ME SO HAPPY...

...EITHER WAY, IT REPRE-SENTED THE KIND OF...

...NORMAL INTER-PERSONAL RELATION-SHIPS I'D BEEN WISHING FOR.

MAYBE SINCE WE WERE ALL PEOPLE WHOSE HEARTS HAD BEEN STOLEN BY OHTSUTSUKI?

I'M NOT 100 PERCENT SURE, BUT...

I REALLY DON'T SEE...

...EITHER OF YOU TRYING TO HARM ME AT THIS POINT.

AND BESIDES ...

...I ACTUALLY DON'T THINK I'D MIND ANY-MORE...

...IF YOU ***WERE*** THE ONES TO KILL ME.

GRP

...

HUH ?!

...

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF...

...A MUTUAL LIFE-OR-DEATH FRIEND-SHIP...

SO THEN...

...WHAT'S WITH THIS BOLD HUG, SARADA?

SHF

...

IT'S PROOF OF MY RESOLVE...

...AS WELL AS OF MY FRIEND-SHIP.

...

I'M NOT OPPOSED TO THE IDEA...

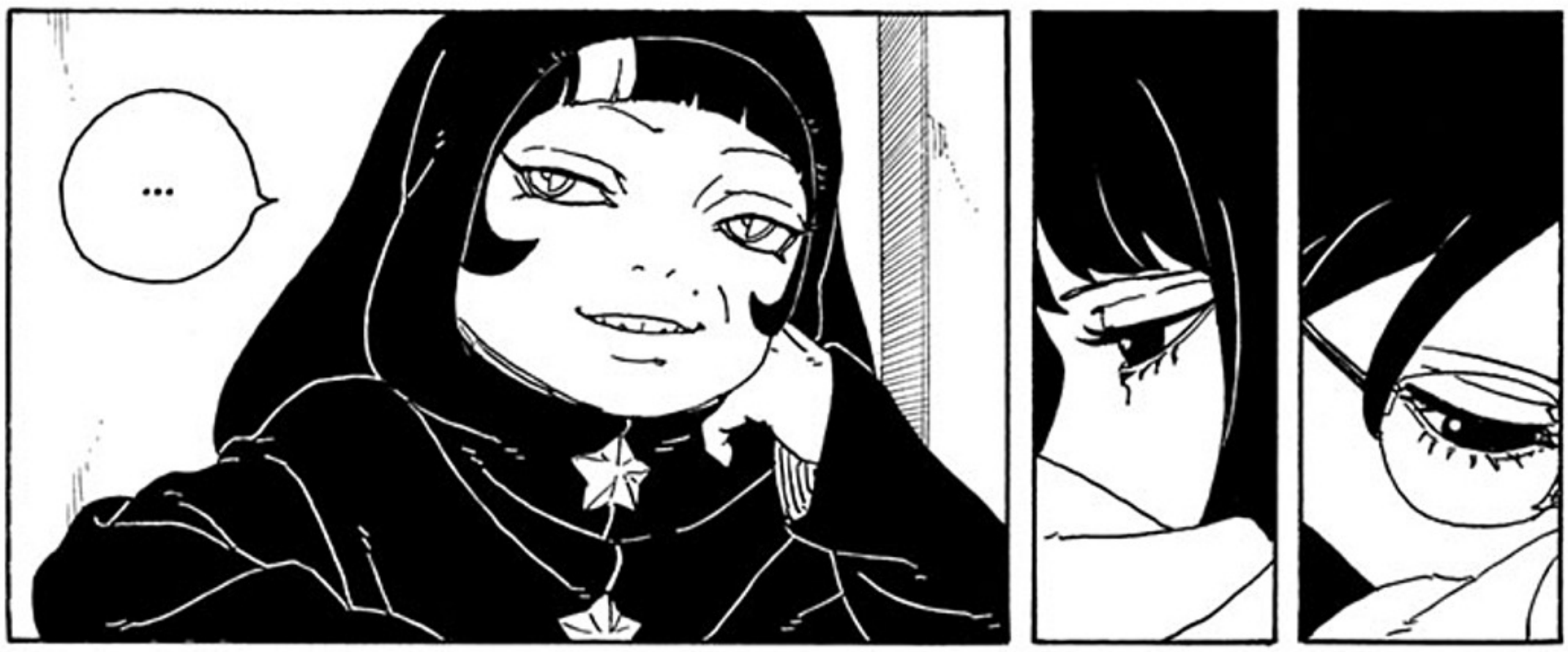
IT'S THE EPITOME OF EXCITEMENT!

...OF RISKING MY LIFE ON A FRIENDSHIP.

BOTH OF YOU.

THANK YOU.

ONCE AGAIN, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU...
...MY VERY DEAR FRIENDS...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DIVISION?

MAMUSHI WILL UNDERGO ***DIVISION.***

AND THERE'S ALMOST NO LIMIT...

...TO HOW MANY HE CAN BECOME.

IT'S ONE OF HIS ABILITIES.

THEREFORE, THERE'S NO SPLITTING OF CHAKRA...

...NOR OF POWER OR PHYSICAL STRENGTH.

NO, THEY'RE TOTALLY DIFFERENT.

THE BIGGEST DISTINCTION ...

...IS THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL IS A REAL HIM.

SO THEY'RE LIKE SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGERS?

THE ONLY DRAW-BACK...

...IS THAT AS HE CREATES MORE OF HIMSELF...

...THERE'S A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN INTELLI-GENCE.

HE CAN MULTIPLY FULL-STRENGTH VERSIONS OF HIMSELF?

THAT'S REALLY BAD NEWS.

SO YOU'RE SAYING OUR BEST CHANCE...

...IS TO WAIT UNTIL THEY'VE BECOME STUPID ENOUGH...

...THEN CUT THEM ALL DOWN AT ONCE?

PLUS, HIS SENSE OF PAIN DULLS, AND HIS BEHAVIOR BECOMES SIMPLER.

THESE ARE WEAK-NESSES THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO EXPLOIT.

AND THIS IS CRUCIAL.

PRECISELY.

ONE MORE THING.

THE ONES WHO'VE LOST THEIR EYES WON'T BE ABLE TO DIVIDE FURTHER.

YOU *MUST* DESTROY BOTH EYES.

...EACH REMAINING ONE'S INTELLIGENCE WILL IMPROVE.

BUT BE CAREFUL.

AS THEIR HEAD COUNT DECREASES ...

!

THEIR EYES?

...AS IF YOU WERE DEALING WITH ANIMALS.

TAKING THEM ALL OUT IN ONE SWOOP THEN WOULD BE IDEAL.

LET HIM REACH 20 TO 30 BODIES.

THEY'LL BECOME EASIER TO HANDLE...

*IF WE ACCIDENTALLY LEAVE A FEW ALIVE, THEY'LL EACH BE HARDER TO DEAL WITH...*

*...BUT IF THEY INCREASE TO TOO MANY, WE'LL BE IN OVER OUR HEADS TOO.*

*I SEE...*

...

THE MAIN REASON FOR FIGHTING HIM IN KONOHA...

...IS TO PREVENT JURA FROM INTERVENING.

JURA'S TARGETS ARE BORUTO AND HIMAWARI.

IF EITHER MOVES, HE WILL.

BUT IF KONOHA IS THE BATTLE-FIELD...

...HE WON'T APPEAR.

!

WHAT ?!

FOR WHAT-EVER REASON...

...HE'S TAKEN A LIKING TO OUR VILLAGE.

HE'S BEEN FREQUENTLY SIGHTED.

BEEN DROPPING BY BOOKSTORES AND SWEETS SHOPS REGULARLY.

...

WHY NOT?

THE DIVIDED INDIVIDUALS CAN'T HELP FLOCKING TOGETHER.

NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

...INSTINCT WOULD CAUSE THAT ONE TO HOME IN ON AND REJOIN THE REST.

SO EVEN IF THEY MADE ONE WAIT BEHIND...

...MAMUSHI LEAVES ONE OF HIMSELF BACK AT THEIR BASE.

LET'S JUST SUPPOSE ...

GETTING RID OF ALL THE ONES IN THE VILLAGE WOULDN'T WIPE HIM OUT ENTIRELY, WOULD IT?

YOU'RE RIGHT...

!

WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO CONFRONT AND ENGAGE HIM IN KONOHA?

...JUST PRE-EMPTIVELY STRIKE BEFORE HE COMES INVADING?

UM...

JUST WONDER-ING...

IF WE KNOW ALL THIS, SHOULDN'T WE...

I SEE...

AND THAT'LL BE MORE LIKELY THE DUMBER HE IS.

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I'VE BEEN HAVING THE SENSORY UNIT REPORT ANY SIGHTINGS...

...BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE HIM ALONE.

I'VE ORDERED THE KONOHA POLICE TO KEEP THEIR DISTANCE TOO.

FOR REAL?

SLRP

ズ…

AND INOJIN...

WE NEED YOU TO MASTER A NEW JUTSU.

...

I SEE...

IT WOULDN'T BE EXAGGERATING TO SAY IT'LL BE THE KEY IN THE UPCOMING BATTLE AGAINST MAMUSHI.

AND THE REASON WE INVITED YOU HERE.

IT'S A SUPERIOR VERSION OF THE MIND TRANSMIS-SION JUTSU.

A NEW JUTSU?

...

HUH...?

EVEN IF HE GETS DUMB?

JURA FROWNS UPON RUNNING AMOK IN KONOHA.

MAMUSHI KNOWS THIS VERY WELL.

SO TO AVOID INCURRING JURA'S WRATH...

...HE'LL REFRAIN FROM NEEDLESS DESTRUC-TION.

IT'S IN-STINCTIVE. NO MATTER...

...HOW MUCH HIS INTELLI-GENCE DROPS...

...HIS DREAD OF JURA WILL NEVER DISAPPEAR.

...HIS SENSE OF PURPOSE-- TARGETING EIDA.

NOR...

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VWOOOO

THUS, IN ORDER TO TAKE ON ONLY MAMUSHI...

...DISPOSING OF HIM IN KONOHA VILLAGE IS IDEAL.

WITHIN TWO DAYS?!

WHOA, HOLD ON.

WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT KIND OF JUTSU IT IS?

SO THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE. WE'LL NEED YOU TO PERFECT IT...

...WITHIN TWO DAYS AT MOST.

MAMUSHI WILL SHOW UP IN KONOHA IN ABOUT A WEEK...

IT MIGHT EVEN BE EARLIER THAN THAT.

...

IT SHOULD BE POS-SIBLE.

SINCE IT'S SOMETHING YOU WERE GOING TO COME UP WITH ANYWAY...

...IN ORDER TO AVENGE HIMAWARI.

WHAT ...

...DID YOU JUST SAY?

...BUT THE THEORIES AND TECH-NIQUES YOU GAINED...

...FROM IT HAPPENING WERE OF GREAT VALUE.

IT'S A FUTURE WE MUST AVOID, OF COURSE...

THAT SURE GOT YOUR ATTENTION.

...

...IMPART THEM TO YOU.

SO, I SHALL ...

I'LL LEARN IT IN ONE, JUST YOU WATCH!

I DON'T NEED TWO DAYS!

...

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...BUT IT DOES SEEM LIKE HE TOOK DAMAGE.

HIS EX-PRESSION IS HARD TO READ...

WELL?

ANYTHING AT ALL?

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AND THAT TREE HE'S GROWING...

...IT'S ALMOST DEFINITELY THE SAME DIVINE TREE THAT HE'S COMPOSED OF.

FORGET WEAK-NESSES.

...IMPOS-SIBLE TO KILL.

IT ALMOST MAKES YOU THINK HE MIGHT BE...

...BUT THE TREES CAN FUNCTION AS POWERFUL WEAPONS AND IMPREGNABLE SHIELDS AS WELL.

SO NOT ONLY DO THEY HEAL WOUNDS...

...THAT HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY WEAK-NESSES?

SO WHAT? ARE YOU SAYING...

...

BUT NOT WITH MY CURRENT FIRE-POWER.

I NEED MORE.

HE CAN BE TAKEN DOWN.

I FELT IT WHEN I FOUGHT HIM.

KAWAKI, DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT...

...YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T—

GAH...

GRP

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IF YOU STILL...

...WANT MY HELP WITH YOUR DAUGHTER...

WANT ME TO CRUSH YOUR THROAT?

QUIT MAKING EXCUSES AND JUST DO WHAT YOU'RE TOLD!

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I'M SAYING THAT YOUR BODY ISN'T GOING TO TOLERATE MUCH MORE!!

...IF YOU SELF-DESTRUCT FIRST?!

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO FIGHT JURA...

GOFF!

HAK!

THD

NNH!

ゴ!!

...BUT I'M ONLY GRANTING YOUR WISH...

...*AFTER* I'VE ELIMINATED OUR ENEMIES.

I DON'T LIKE REPEATING MYSELF...

ゴ!!

ゴ!!

YOUR ONLY CHOICE...

...IS TO TAKE THE GAMBLE...

...ON WHETHER I KILL OUR ENEMIES...

...OR DIE FIRST.

YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR DAUGHTER AGAIN?

ゴ!!

THEN HURRY UP AND ACCEPT YOUR LOT IN LIFE.

ゴ!!

UNFOR-TUNATELY, THAT DOESN'T OFFER AN OUNCE OF CREDIBILITY.

FOR IT'S PERFECTLY NATURAL AND REASONABLE FOR A MOLE TO CONDUCT THEMSELF IN SUCH A WAY.

I WAS IN THE PROCESS OF INTERRO-GATING BORUTO!

AS ORDERED!

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VWOO

I TOLD YOU ALREADY!

WHICH IS WHY WE NEED TO INVESTIGATE.

AND THE REASON YOU ARE HERE RIGHT NOW.

BUT NOW?

...I DETESTED BORUTO.

AT THE TIME...

...OF THAT INTERRO-GATION...

...

...BUT DON'T YOU THINK YOU WERE JUST BEING TACTFULLY PLAYED?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE TOLD YOU...

...TOWARDS THE IDEA OF HIM AS A TRAITOR.

I'M FEELING SOME KIND OF CONTRA-DICTION...

I COULD BE KIND AND SAY HE'S NAIVE...

HE SIMPLY DOESN'T HAVE THE CHARACTER OF A MOLE.

...BUT HE'S JUST DIM...

AND FURTHER-MORE...

DO YOU TRULY COMPREHEND THE SITUATION YOU ARE CURRENTLY IN?

...I'M AMAZED YOU WOULD COME OUT AND SAY THAT UNDER THESE CIRCUM-STANCES.

...

KONOHA-MARU.

IT'S ME. ANSWER ONLY IN YOUR HEAD.

...HELPED BORUTO ESCAPE...

WHICH MEANS SOMEONE **ELSE**...

I'M THE ONE WHO LET...

...BORUTO ESCAPE.

LORD EIGHTH?

?!

JUST STAY CALM AND HEAR ME OUT, OKAY?

THERE'S NO TIME, SO I'M GONNA BE DIRECT.

...

?!

BUT WHY...?

...

I GAVE MITSUKI THE CODE TO UNLOCK HIS SHACKLES.

YOU UNDER-STAND NOW...

...DON'T YOU?

OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

AND I'M STILL WORKING WITH BORUTO.

...

GET OUT OF HERE -WITH THAT BULB RIGHT NOW!

IT MAY ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY CATCH ON TO MY ACTIONS...

...SO I KNOW I'M ASKING A LOT OF YOU, KONOHA-MARU, BUT WOULD YOU...

...HELP ME, OR RATHER...

YOU HEARD ME, MOVE!!!

GO!!

WAIT THERE FOR FURTHER INSTRU-CTION.

...CONSIDER HELPING *US* OUT?

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PLEASE ...

...LEND US A HAND!

I'M NOT GOING TO FORCE YOU TO DO ANYTHING...

...BUT IF YOU'RE WILLING TO TRUST ME...

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THEN I SHOULD GET GOING TOO...

I LOST TRACK OF TIME.

I NEED TO HEAD TO THE LAB SOON.

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WOO

OH!

HELP, SUMIRE?

UH...

I'M NOT LETTING YOU LEAVE, SARADA!

GLOM

GRIN

HAVE FUN!

LATER, SARADA.

WE STILL HAVE THINGS TO TALK ABOUT!

TMP TMP

BORUTO!

HEY.

FSH

!

ゴオオオ
VWOOO

...

SHF

...AND THIS WAS THE RESULT.

...BUT I LOST FOCUS FOR JUST AN INSTANT...

THE UCHIHA FLOWING BLADE JUTSU-- HAGOROMO ...

A CHIP...

...

...AND PREVENTS CHIPPING, BY CONTINUOUSLY ENVELOPING IT IN CHAKRA...

IT'S A JUTSU THAT INCREASES A BLADE'S SHARPNESS...

RSTL

HUH?

ME?

SORRY, CLASS REP, BUT...

...COULD YOU FIX IT WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK?

SHF

...

TAKE A LOOK?

...TECH-NOLOGY IS...!

THIS...

I CAN'T SAY ANY MORE, BUT...

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IT DOESN'T EXIST IN OUR WORLD YET.

YEAH.

THOUGH YOU WOULD EVENTUALLY DEVELOP IT...

...WILL YOU DO IT?

...THROUGH YOUR CURRENT RESEARCH, CLASS REP.

ゴゴ

...

...

IS THAT OKAY?

IF I WERE TO USE THIS TECH-NOLOGY TO FIX IT...

...I FEEL LIKE THE BLADE MIGHT BE REBORN AS SOMETHING ALMOST COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

AS LONG AS IT ENDS UP STRONGER ...

SHF

OKAY, FINE.

...PROB-LEM.

BUT THERE'S JUST ONE...

...I DON'T THINK MY MASTER WOULD OBJECT.

WHAT IS IT?

YOU NEED TO CALL ME "SUMIRE."

NO MORE "CLASS REP."

...

I'M GONNA JAZZ IT UP!

LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

HUH?

TEE HEE.

...

SEVERAL DAYS LATER..

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VWOOOO

...BIG SIS EIDA, HMMM?

I WONDER WHERE YOU'RE HIDING...

BSTL

BSTL

NOW THEN...

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HEY, DON'T ANY OF YOU FORGET, YOU HEAR?

ゴ

ゴ

...SO THOSE PESKY PEEPING TOMS DON'T CATCH ON TO US...

KEEP YOUR CHAKRA SIGNATURES ERASED...

**To be continued!**